

THE SAME OLD RESULT.

Preacher-Politician Meets Socialist in Debate and Gets Worst of It.

For months the Socialists have been watching the arrangement of a debate between Col. Dick Maple, editor of the National Rip Saw, and Rev. C. R. Powell, Land mark Baptist preacher and editor of the Arkansas Baptist, published at Little Rock, Ark.

Like most starched-collar editors-preachers, Rev. Powell has no use for Socialism, and the fun began when, in his publication, he assailed Col. Dick Maple and denounced Socialism as "the twin sister of infidelity, hatched in the pit."

Immediately Col. Maple challenged him to debate and let the audience judge. Promptly Rev. Powell accepted and named Argenta, a city just across the Arkansas river from Little Rock as the place of debate, and the date was June 16 and 17—Powell to open the debate and Maple to close it—one night each.

I have before me the Argenta Daily News. It is not a Socialist paper. It is a miracle when any one of prominence can be drawn into a public debate with a Socialist. But the Rev. Powell had brayed so long and loud that he had placed himself where he couldn't get away. Of the meeting the Argenta News says—

Rev. Powell shed tears last night when Col. Dick Maple referred to the Democratic conviction of the preachers aged father and mother and said:

"You say, Charley Powell, that Socialism is a twin sister to infidelity hatched in the pit; that Socialism emanated from the Devil, and that Socialists are on the road to hell. Did you not say that in your argument last night?" repeated the Colonel, pointing an index finger at Bro. Powell, who sat near the middle of the stage. The minister bowed his head and then shook it hesitatingly. "Yes, you did," Col. Maple continued, turning toward the audience. "I asked him to define the word 'pit,' and he said it was hell, and that he intended it to mean the place of hell; that Socialism was hatched there, and that its effort to supplant the Christian religion, its followers would go down into the hell from whence it came."

Renewing his attitude toward the preacher with an outstretched hand and a voice cut by sorrow, Col. Maple said: "You ought to be ashamed of that statement Charley Powell—ashamed of it the balance of your natural life, and you should go to your father and mother and get down on your knees and ask them to forgive you. I tell you the father that gave you birth, and the mother that nurtured you—the father who led you and shielded you through the tender years of your youth; the mother whose kindly hand cooled your fevered brow, ARE SOCIALISTS!"

As the minister sat with bowed head and the tears trickling down his burning cheeks, Col. Maple again turned to the audience saying: "In God's name, how could he say that? I have an old father past 82 years of age, and an old mother about 80, and if I thought they were on the road to hell because they were Socialists, I would be the most miserable wretch on earth. I would cry out, and on bended knees, I would plead with such a God to take me too. If I was not a Socialist, I would become one. What? Me in heaven throughout eternity and my old dad and mam suffering the tortures of a hell? No, never! I would not worship a God that would separate me from them. I would rather be in hell with them than to do it."

Pointing a finger at the preacher, his voice ringing with scathing reproach, "Shame on you, Charley Powell; shame on you." There were estimated to be 2,000 in the auditorium of Riverside Park last night when Col. Maple began his address for the negative in answer to Rev. Powell. "Resolved, That Socialism is the twin sister of infidelity hatched in the pit."

Many were from distant homes in other states. A father and his son traveled all the way from Oklahoma, 600 miles, to hear the debate. D. S. Duffield came from Rich Hill, Mo., J. N. Walker from Swartz, La., P. M. Johnson from Hot Springs county, C. J. White from Faulkner county, Ark. B. J. Robertson, a millionaire Socialist, of Cincinnati, Ohio, sat on the platform.

Some came from Texas, California, Arizona and New Mexico, and still others from Tennessee, whose names the News could not get.

the scholars of the world as to meaning of the science; that it is a science of sociology modernly named Socialism, but in fact, a true Democracy, and that there is not and cannot be any conflict between Socialism and the religion of Jesus Christ.

Col. Maple read from the "Rip Saw" to show that Rev. Powell, the night before used the word "Christian" where the editorial had used the word "creed," and that he did it purposely, to misrepresent the meaning of the editorial before the audience. The editorial read, "Socialism would do more for the world in ten years than all the preachers and priests in your creed have done in 2,000 years." Rev. Powell made the editorial say, "Socialism would do more in ten years than Christianity has done in 2,000 years."

"Is that the way you read your Bible, Charley," asked the Colonel "Twist the language so that you can make out your case and set up a pretense to prove that everybody on earth is going to hell except the Landmark Baptists?" Col. Maple spoke for two hours and a half, and still the great mass of people did not tire. They were in a good humor, throaty, and when he begged to close, voices from all over the audience cried out, "Go on; go on!" and some shouted, "We can stay here all night."

The sum of his argument was that Christianity had completely failed to carry out its program in the ideal, because of the environment, or the competitive struggle for bread and butter, and that Socialism, if put into practice, would prepare the soil for the good seed by removing the environment; that Socialism, instead of being an enemy to Christianity, is its best ally and friend; that for 400 years the early church practised it and prospered. "The Master was the first Socialist," declared the Colonel, "and if his doctrine had been carried out by the church there'd be no need for Socialism now."

THE DIFFERENCE there is no distinct line or issue that separates the Democratic party from the Republican party on any material issue. In fact, both avoid material issues and make a great noise about immaterial matters. There was thought to be some difference between them on the tariff, but since the representatives in Congress of both parties are divided on this, there can no longer be any deception about that. We find there tariff reduction Democrats and tariff reduction Republicans, just as we find there protective tariff Democrats and protective tariff Republicans.

But there is a very clear distinction between the principles advocated by the two old parties and the Socialist party. Either of the capitalist deny the existence of classes, and both insist that the interests of capital and labor are identical. The Socialists insists that there is a producing class that is systematically robbed of its product, while an other class that has secured control of the government lives from the toil of others. It holds that the interests of capital and labor are directly opposite; that labor and the products of labor are sought and bought by capital, and that there is an irreconcilable conflict between them.

Cannot a blind man see that the Socialists are right? If they are wrong why don't the capitalists try to refute them instead of harassing and jailing them? Every observer knows that classes do exist and that the idle, ruling class gives little or nothing in return for the abundance it takes from labor. Any person, who will set his think-box in motion must conclude that the interests of capital and labor are not identical, for the laborer wants as much as he can get for his services, while capital will pay no more than it is forced to.

And this is the issue that must be settled first. Get in line. PROSECUTING THE TRUSTS Samuel Untermyer, one of the greatest lawyers of the country says that the sugar trust has been a constant law-breaker from its birth, has monopolized congress, ruined competitors and robbed the public, but that it is no worse than many others, and not so bad as some. He further states that whenever the government really wants to bring the criminal rich to justice it will not be difficult to do so. He says the provisions of the law are ample, but there never has been an honest and intelligent effort to enforce them. This is a severe arraignment of both the capacity and the genuine purpose of all those who have posed as prosecutors of trusts, either in the executive chair or the judicial department. Such criticism coming from one not so learned in the law would have little weight, but from a lawyer of Mr. Untermyer's ability and character it is very significant and disquieting. It suggests that there has been a lot of playing to the galleries the past eight years. It also suggests that Mr. Taft overlooked the right man when he selected his Attorney General from New York, provided he has serious intentions of prosecuting the individuals who are responsible for the criminal acts of the trusts.—St. Louis Star.

THE LAND QUESTION. The question that causes many small home-owners to hesitate between the present system and Socialism is the land question. As will be seen by reading the second paragraph of the platform printed in an other column, the Socialists demand the collective ownership of all land. This is of course snatched at by the capitalists to scare the small farmer into believing that he would be deprived of his home.

The fact is that no Socialist wants to deprive any person of any property he has honestly acquired. But the big thieves, who have secured control of a greater part of the earth—including the oil wells, and coal fields, mines, etc.—through special legislation and bribery, are to be made to let go. The exploitation of the people because of the ownership of things that were put here for all, is to cease.

Land monopoly has not developed as fast as monopolies in other lines, because profits in other lines were greater. But now that other lines have been pretty well cornered, land monopoly is progressing at a more rapid pace. And, unless Socialism interferes, the few will soon own all the land as they now own practically everything else.

To avoid further misrepresentation on the land question the Socialists of Wisconsin have caused to be submitted to a referendum vote of the party a substitute for the declaration on land adopted at Chicago last year. It is very explicit reads:

"There can be no absolute private title to land. All titles—this is a legal phrase—are to be submitted to the public title. The Socialists strive to prevent land from being used for the purpose of exploitation and speculation. It demands the collective possession, control or management of land to whatever extent may be necessary to attain that end. It is not opposed to the occupation and possession of land by those using it in a useful and bona fide manner without exploitation."

Now, Mr. small farm-owner, want to repeat that "the Socialist party strives to prevent land from being used for exploitation and speculation." It wants the land to remain for those who want to use it, and "demands the collective possession, control or management of land to whatever extent may be necessary to attain that end." It is not opposed to the occupation and possession of land by those who use it in a useful and bona fide manner without exploitation."

See anything wrong about that? While this substitute is yet to be voted on, yet it states more clearly than the original, my idea of the land question under Socialism. The landlord is to be wiped out and the tenant farmer is to be given a chance to transform himself into a happy home-owner.

BUSINESS LOCALS. Notice! Bring your bacon, hams and lard to me and get best price. We will pay you 13 1/2 cents per pound for side meat; 16 cents for hams and 13 1/2 cents for lard. J. Banks, Oran, Mo.

Farm for sale:—360 acres—240 acres in cultivation. As good land as can be found in Scott county. The part in cultivation never overflows. Will sell all or in such parts as suit the buyer. Price \$35 and \$40 per acre, if taken soon. Terms reasonable.

J. H. Brannan, Vanduser Mo. For Sale.—Improved and unimproved farms near Oran, Chaffee, New Hamburg, Benton, Blodgett and Dikeburg at prices ranging from \$25 to \$40 per acre. Also, business and residence property in Oran, Vanduser, Commerce and Dikeburg. D. H. Harner, Oran.

For Sale.—A good family horse, buggy and harness. The horse is used to farm work and will work anywhere. Apply to this office.

Advertisement in the Kicker. If you have farm or town property for sale, place it with me. D. H. Harper, Mo. Look! We are paying for bacon 13 1/2 cents per pound; for hams, 16 cents, and for lard, 13 1/2 cents. Bring all you can to Banks Saving Store, Oran, Mo.

THE FARMER QUESTION. From the Daily Socialist—No one question has caused more discussion in the Socialist movement than the attitude to be observed in relation to the farmer.

There was once an idea in Socialist circles that the problem was extremely simple. Some Socialists held that as machinery was applied to agriculture the farms would grow larger and larger and that the work upon the farms would be done more and more by wage workers until the situation now existing in most line of factory industry would be repeated in farming.

Actual evolution has served to almost completely explode this theory. It has been discovered that agriculture is a word that really covers a multitude of interchangeable industries and that the evolution of one of these industries is being constantly interrupted by an entire change in the character of the industry itself.

The methods of exploitation in agriculture are much more complex and varied than in factory industry. The wage-workers that are employed are less permanent in their industrial position and more frequently united to their employers by personal ties, which interferes with the development of class solidarity and class consciousness. They do not occupy the dominant position in the productive process which they hold in the factory.

The essential element in farming is still the small farmer and farm owner.

For all of these reasons the farmer question is a perpetually recurrent one in the Socialist movement. An amendment to the Socialist party national platform on this question has just been offered that deserves the most careful consideration. It is proposed to strike out the demand now in the platform for the collective ownership of all land, and to insert the following paragraph:

"The Socialists strive to prevent land from being used for the purpose of exploitation and speculation. It demands the collective possession, control or management of land to whatever extent may be necessary to attain that end. It is not opposed to the occupation and possession of land by those using it in a useful and bona fide manner without exploitation."

Every member of the Socialist party will have an opportunity to vote upon this question. It is a question of decision of which will have a great influence upon the future of the Socialist movement.

FIGURE IT OUT. Not that it amounts to anything, but just for the fun of it. I am going to reproduce a clipping from a paper that loudly howls for "the people." As you read, I want you to figure out whether the paper is labelled Democratic or Republican—

"The railroads have protested against the injustice of the two-cent rate in every state in which it has been enacted. The fact that the two-cent rate has been first declared unjust and confiscatory in Missouri by no means warrants the assumption that it will be allowed to stand in the other states. On the contrary, the enactment of the two-cent rate indicates their intention to claim the protection of THE COURTS against arbitrary and unjust rate schedules in all the states."

Now what do you say? Is that Democratic or Republican—or both? It declares the two-cent rate unjust, and says that in the other states the railroads "will claim the protection of the COURTS." Sounds a little like a railroad lawyer doesn't it? It is taken from the Bloomfield Indicator—one of the red hottest Democratic sheets that ever went after court house pie. But it was probably furnished by that philanthropic concern known as the Democratic press bureau.

AN OLD COURT HOUSE. The old court house in Boone county is being torn down. It is one of the best examples of early Missouri architecture. It was in this building that Joe Folk convicted Ed. Butler. During the civil war it was occupied by federal soldiers as a barracks. Negro slaves were sold on its broad stone steps "befo de wah." Practically all the noted jurists and members of the pioneer bar of fifty and sixty years ago were familiar figures on its big two story-story portico in the days when the state was new and the lawyers rode horseback on circuit, following the judges from court to court.

A stone that was placed over the door of the old court house contained a motto that is so close to the hearts of Boone County people that the county court was requested to tear it out and place it in the new court house. The inscription, which greets you in the anteroom of the new court house, reads: "Oh Justice, when driven from other habitations, make this thy dwelling place."

THE SOCIALIST PLATFORM. Adopted at Chicago, Ill., in 1908. As measures calculated to strengthen the working class in its fight for the realization of this ultimate aim and to increase its power of resistance against capitalist oppression, advocate and pledge ourselves, and our elected officers, to the following program—

1. The immediate government relief for the unemployed workers by building schools, by reforesting cut-over and waste lands, by reclamation of arid tracts, and the building of canals, and by extending all other useful public works. All persons employed on such works shall be employed directly by the government under an eight-hour work day and at the prevailing rate of union wages. The government shall also loan money to the states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on public works. It shall contribute to the funds of labor organizations for the purpose of assisting their unemployed members, and shall take such other measures within its power as will lessen the widespread misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist class.

2. The collective ownership of railroads, telegraph, telephones, steamboat lines and all other means of social transportation and communication, and all land and industries which are organized on a national scale, and in which competition has virtually ceased to exist.

3. The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.

4. The scientific reforestation of timber lands, and the reclamation of swamp lands. The land so reforested or reclaimed to be permanently retained as a part of the public domain.

5. The absolute freedom of the press, speech and assembly.

6. The improvement of the industrial condition of the workers. By shortening the workday in keeping with the increased productivity of machinery.

7. By securing to every worker a rest period of not less than a day and a half each week.

8. By securing a more effective inspection of workshops and factories.

9. By forbidding the employment of children under 16 years of age.

10. By forbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor, and of all uninspected factories.

11. By abolishing official charity and substituting in its place compulsory insurance against unemployment, illness, accident, invalidism, old age and death.

POLITICAL DEMANDS.

12. The extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the amount of the bequests and to the needs of kin.

13. A graduated income tax.

14. Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women, and we pledge ourselves to engage in an active campaign in that direction.

15. The initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall.

16. The abolition of the Senate.

17. The abolition of the power usurped by the supreme court of the United States to pass upon the constitutionality of the legislation enacted by Congress.

18. National laws to be repealed or abrogated only by act of Congress or by a referendum of the whole people.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.

Recent Happenings in Neighboring Counties Briefly Told.

Perryville Republican:—Steven Moore, said to be a former resident of this place, has been arrested for complicity in a series of swindles while cashier of a bank at Denbow City, Ill. On May 31st Moore reported that he had been robbed of \$33,000 by two men but last Saturday he admitted that the yarn was concocted to cover fraud perpetrated with his connivance, by parties by the name of John Guhman and H. M. Barkers of St. Louis. The plan of operation was for Guhman or Barkers, who were owners of the bank, to get a time certificate of deposit O. K'd by Moore and then take it to the city and negotiate it on some individual or bank. This scheme worked fine until the certificates began to come due, then as there had been no money deposited by the men named above, there was nothing to meet them with, so the robbery story was concocted, but it didn't hold water, and the result is that the three men are under arrest. We are told that Moore is a son of the late Nereus Moore of this place. Moore's daughter, Loreta, was married last Sunday to Harry Hall, of Cape Girardeau, where the family formerly lived.

Dexter Messenger: A search warrant was issued by Judge Fort on last Saturday upon complaint of two citizens, who had reason to believe that W. H. Ellis was allowing persons to stow their whisky and intoxicants in his place of business for the purpose of drinking on the premises. A partial admission of this was made by Ellis, on the ground that it improved his soda pop business. Some whiskey was found belonging to another party and a warrant sworn out against Ellis and he was placed under bond for his appearance at the circuit court to answer the charge of violating the local option law of the county.

Parma Victor:—The nine-year old son of W. C. Bennett, of Mossy, was bitten by a copperhead snake Wednesday afternoon. The lad was feeding his horse and reached in a crib to obtain some corn, when the snake, which was in the crib, bit him on the left wrist. His father hastened to this place with him and Dr. Manire rendered medical attention. The boy's arm was terrible swollen and he is in a dangerous condition.

Dexter Messenger: At Clarkton parties are taking leases on large tracts of land lying in New Madrid county east of that town, with the intention of prospecting for oil. J. H. Hobbitt, a pioneer in the oil business, is largely interested in the project, and it is said by those who have talked with him that he believes there are surface indications sufficient to warrant the sinking of wells.

A press dispatch from Washington announces that Attorney General Wickersham will recommend to President Taft that a pardon be granted to the Smith brothers of Sikeston, who were sentenced to the federal penitentiary in the celebrated civil rights cases tried in Cape Girardeau.

Jackson Cash Books:—From reports that come from out in the county, the farmers are harvesting a good crop of wheat. Some crops are very fine, while the quality of the grain in nearly every instance is said to be excellent.

Marriage license was granted to Joseph Stricker and Hannah Harness, at Charleston.

While working at the Putnam Handicraft factory at Charleston Wm. Nicols lost a hand.

Portageville Critic:—Sam Jarred is the Irish potato king of New Madrid county, having seven acres of Burbanks, Triumphs and Early Rose, and the yield will be most excellent for this section. Mr. Jarred thinking he will harvest 90 bushels to the acre. He has set the price at \$1 a bushel, and, as this splendid standard has been selling at from \$1.25 to \$1.50 a bushel, his price seems very reasonable. He has, in addition to this large acreage of potatoes, half an acre of cabbage, one-quarter acre of onions, and about a quarter of an acre of tomatoes, and something near two acres of table corn, which he will have on the market about July 3d as roasting ears.

St. Louis papers announce that a \$1,500,000 corporation has been formed, financed from Chicago, for the colonization of 200,000 negroes in Southeast Missouri—chiefly in Butler and Carter counties. This land was gobbled up by big milling corporations at \$1.25 per acre from the government for the timber. Now that the timber is off they will try to farm it.

Grandin Herald:—The Grandin high school building was struck by lightning Monday afternoon during the heavy thunder storm and burned to the ground. The loss on building and furniture is about \$6000 with \$2000 insurance. This is a hard blow for Grandin. The school board will probably rent a building for the next year.

In the preliminary trial of Charley Champ, as principal, and Cecil Cox and "Rube" Hart, as accessories, to the killing of Henry Culp, at Kennett recently, all three of the defendants were bound over to circuit court, Champ and Cox without bail, Hart being allowed the privilege of filing a \$500 bond.

Greenville Sun:—Mrs. Chas. Brewington and children, of Read Bend, Madison county, ate mulberries recently and were all poisoned. Dr. N. A. Farr was summoned and did all he could, but failed to save one little girl of four summers. The mother lay very low for several days, but is now said to be improving.

James Nelson and Ode Allen, of Desodize, engaged in a fight and Nelson bit off Allen's ear. Fighting is all right for brutes, but men ought to have more sense.

The papers all over the Southeast report good wheat harvests. A Poplar Bluff paper tells of one large farm that averaged thirty bushels.

The Single State Barrel Co., at Malden, has made an assignment. Too much prosperity.

CONTROL OF HOG CHOLERA. "The Control of Hog Cholera" is the subject of a very valuable bulletin prepared by Dr. J. W. Conway, of the Missouri agricultural station at Columbia. This bulletin has just been issued by the Missouri State Board of Agriculture and may be had free by addressing Secretary George B. Ellis, Columbia, Mo.

Dr. Conway is generally regarded as the best authority on hog cholera. During the past six or seven months more than 8,000 hogs have been treated, and of the number 95 per cent have been cured.

In his latest bulletin Dr. Conway has so fully described every symptom of hog cholera that any farmer, after reading the description, will be able to readily recognize the disease. There are also a number of good illustrations which serve to make it plain, if possible, the text.

One of the best features of the bulletin is the strong common sense side.

A Newspaper

May be of benefit to the people of a community, and it may be

AN INJURY

Depending entirely upon the point of view. Some newspapers regard a few selfish and useless citizens as

"THE PEOPLE,"

But the Kicker is not of THAT CLASS. It regards the useful citizens—the workers—as the people and believes that when the producers are

PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY

All is well and the goose hangs high. If this be your idea, patronize

The Kicker.

Be at Morley Saturday, July 3. Senator Gaylord, of Wisconsin, will speak at 1.30 p. m.